differs from native VEGF in that said variant contains at least one modification in the Kinase domain region (KDR) and/or FMS-like Tyrosine Kinase region (FLT-1), said modification(s) resulting in a modification of the binding affinity of said region(s) with respect to binding affinity of KDR and or FLT-1 receptor(s) relative to native VEGF; and

b) a carrier.

D2

21. The nucleic acid according to Claim 19 wherein two or more of said amino acids are modified.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first paragraph after the heading "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" at page 1, line 4, as amended by the transmittal accompanying the present application, with the following paragraph:

D3

This is a continuation-in-part application of application Serial No. 08/567,200 filed December 5, 1995, now Patent No. 6,020,473 which issued February 1, 2000 and a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/691,794 filed August 2, 1996, now Patent No. 6,057,428 which issued May 2, 2000, and claims the benefit of provisional application No. 60/002,827 filed August 25, 1995. The disclosures of Serial No. 08/567,200 and Serial No. 08/691,794 are expressly incorporated by reference.

At page 5, line 4, please insert the following paragraph, immediately after the paragraph entered in the Amendment and Response dated November 5, 2002:

D4

In yet another embodiment of the invention, mutagenesis is effected at one or more of the positions Ile 46, Gln 79 and Ile 83 and/or Ile 43, Phe 17 and Glu 64 of a nucleic acid encoding a vascular endothelial cell growth factor (VEGF) variant of native VEGF. By way of example, the following nucleic acids encoding VEGF variants are further embodiments of the invention: nucleic acids encoding VEGF variants having modifications at positions Ile 46, Gln 7, Ile 83, Ile 43, Phe 17 and Glu 64; at positions Ile 46, Ile 83, Glu 64; at positions Phe 17, Gln 79, Ile 43; at positions Ile 46, Gln 79, Ile 83, Ile 43, Phe 17 and Glu 64; at positions Ile 46, Gln 79, Ile